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SOURCE Hsin-hua T'ung-hsun She Tien-hsun.

CHINESE EXCEED 1952 COAL PRODUCTION QUOTA  
 BY MORE THAN 2 MILLION TONS

Peiping, 31 December (Hsin-hua) -- China's state-operated coal mines ex-  
 ceeded the 1952 coal production quota by 5.4 percent or by more than 2 million  
 tons. Production in 1952 exceeded that of 1951 by 28.7 percent. The increase  
 in production in 1952 over 1951 in major administrative areas was as follows:  
 Northeast, 107.9 percent; North China, 102.9; East China, 101.7; Central-South  
 China, 129.6; and Southwest China, 110 percent.

A great improvement has also been made in the field of mine safety. The  
 problem of ventilation has been basically solved, and a preliminary solution was  
 found for the problem of mine scaffolding. Accidents from gas explosions and  
 collapse of scaffolding have been reduced considerably. According to prelim-  
 inary data, the number of deaths from accidents in coal mines were reduced by  
 75 percent in 1952 in comparison with the number in 1949.

The rate of coal production in 1952 has also seen a gradual increase. Using  
 the 1949 production as a base, the production for the four quarters of 1952 was  
 as follows: first quarter, 196; second quarter, 213; third quarter, 227; and  
 fourth quarter, 260. The rate of increase in 1952 in the Northeast and the North  
 China has been 400 to 500 percent of the 1949 average. This resulted mainly from  
 the study and application of the advanced Soviet technique of coal mining.

The organization of labor in state-operated coal mines has continued to im-  
 prove. A large number of mine workers were moved out of production to study or  
 to turn to basic construction work. In the Northeast, North China, and East China  
 alone, there were thousands of coal mine workers who left production to go into  
 various kinds of study in preparation for mobilizing a strong and a large force  
 to work in national reconstruction and in opening new mines and coal fields.

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